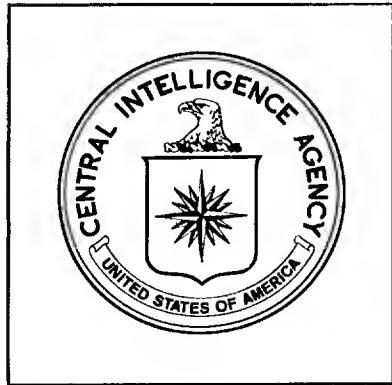


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# **The USSR REGIONAL AND POLITICAL ANALYSIS**

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This publication is prepared by the USSR Division, Office of Regional and Political Analysis, with occasional contributions from other offices within the Directorate of Intelligence. The views presented are the personal judgments of analysts on significant events or trends in Soviet foreign and domestic affairs. Although the analysis will center on political matters, it will discuss politically relevant economic or strategic trends when appropriate. Differences of opinion will sometimes be aired to present consumers with a range of analytical views. Comments and queries are welcome. They should be directed to the authors of the individual articles or to

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[Redacted]

Official Reference Book Omits Ustinov from Secretariat

A formal listing of the Central Committee Secretariat appearing in an official Soviet publication signed to the press on August 20 of last year has added to the evidence suggesting that Defense Minister Ustinov is no longer a member of the Central Committee Secretariat. The publication, *Kommunist Kalendar Spravochnik, 1977* (*Communist Calendar-Reference Book, 1977*) contains a list of the 10 party secretaries (counting Brezhnev). Ustinov's name is not included. (Yakov Ryabov was also omitted because he was not elected to the Secretariat until October 1976.)

Since becoming Defense Minister in April 1976, Ustinov has not been referred to in the Soviet media as a Party Secretary. This has led to speculation that he had relinquished the latter position which he had held since 1965. [Redacted]

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[Redacted] Ustinov's major responsibility as a member of the secretariat was defense industry affairs--a subject with which he has had long experience. The jobs of Defense Minister and Party Secretary are both demanding and time-consuming, and few observers believed that Ustinov could continue to hold both posts indefinitely. [Redacted]

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